

*Washington State*

**Board of Health**

*Washington State*

# **Board of Health**

## **2009 Five-Year Strategic Plan Update**

**Adopted March 13, 2013**

**Washington State Board of Health  
PO Box 47990**

**Olympia, Washington 98504-7990**

**Phone: 360-236-4110**

**Fax: 360-236-4088**

**Email: [wsboh@doh.wa.gov](mailto:wsboh@doh.wa.gov)**

**Website: [sboh@doh.wa.gov](http://sboh@doh.wa.gov)**

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Board's mission is to provide statewide leadership in developing and promoting policies that protect and improve the public's health.

This mission is achieved by:

- *Reviewing and monitoring the health status of all people in Washington;*
- *Initiating and supporting policy development, analyzing policy proposals, providing guidance, and developing rules;*
- *Promoting partnerships that advance the public's health; and*
- *Fostering public participation in shaping the health system.*

## VISION STATEMENT

Our vision is that the health, safety, and well being of all people in Washington will improve.

## GOALS

The Board will work collaboratively to pursue the following public health goals:

1. Strengthen the public health system.
2. Increase access to preventive services.
3. Reduce health disparities.
4. Encourage healthy behaviors.
5. Promote healthy and safe environments.

## STATUTORY AUTHORITY

The State Board of Health is a constitutional agency of the state of Washington. Article XX, Section 1 states: "There shall be established by law a state board of health and a bureau of vital statistics in connection therewith, with such powers as the legislature may direct."

The Board's primary authorizing statute is chapter 43.20 RCW. Section 020 describes the composition of the Board, while section 050 describes most of its powers and duties. This latter section contains the broad, general authorities that underlie most traditional public health activities in this state, things like clean drinking water standards, communicable disease control and reporting, food safety, and regulation of onsite septic systems.

In addition, some three dozen statutory sections outside of chapter 43.20 RCW grant the Board a variety of authorities. The Board also provides staff to the Governor's Interagency Council on Health Disparities. The statutory sections granting the Board its operating authorities are listed in the chart on the next four pages.

RCW	Description
16.70.040	Adopt rules for importation, movement, sale, transfer, or possession of pet animals to protect human health
18.16.100	Director of licensing may consult with Board on cosmetology regulation
18.16.175	Director of licensing may consult with Board on minimum requirements for beauty salons, barber shops, or mobile unit
18.39.215	Embalming of human remains not required except as required by Board in rule
18.51.070	DSHS shall consult with the Board on nursing home rules
18.120.040	Review and comment on applications by health professions seeking regulation
28A.210.010	Adopt rules regarding presence at school facilities of people who have, or have been exposed to, a communicable disease
28A.210.020	Establish procedures for auditory and visual screening in schools
28A.210.080	Establish requirements for compliance with a schedule of immunization (conditional status) in addition to full immunization
28A.210.100	Regulate immunization form and record keeping
28A.210.140	Establish requirements for “full immunization” for school and child care entry
35.67.020, 35.92.020, 36.94.020 57.08.005	Approve training for programs for pumping and inspecting on-site sewage systems and training to measure accumulation of scum in onsite sewage systems
43.20.020	Composition of Board, Board staff, member compensation and travel
43.20.050(1)	Serve as public forum, recommend policy to secretary, explore ways to improve health status of the citizenry.
43.20.050(2)(a)	Adopt rules for Group A water systems to assure safe and reliable public drinking water
43.20.050(2)(b)	Adopt rules for Group B water systems as regarding initial design and construction
43.20.050(2)(c)	Adopt rules for prevention, control, and abatement of health hazards and nuisances related to the disposal of human and animal excreta and animal remains
43.20.050(2)(d)	Adopt rules for environmental conditions in public facilities, including food service establishments, schools, recreational facilities and transient accommodations
43.20.050(2)(e)	Adopt rules for the imposition and use of isolation and quarantine
43.20.050(2)(f)	Adopt rules for the prevention and control of infectious and noninfectious diseases, including food and vector borne illness; adopt rules governing the receipt and conveyance of deceased human remains
43.20.050(2)(g)	Adopt rules for accessing existing databases for health-related research
43.20.050(3)	Adopt onsite sewage system rules only for systems designed for less than 3,500 gallons/day

Washington State Board of Health  
2009 Five-Year Strategic Plan (2013 update)

RCW	Description
43.20.050(4)	Board may delegate (and rescind) rule-making authority to the secretary of health
43.20.050(5)	Board rules enforceable by health officers, law enforcement and all other employees of state and local government
43.20.050(6)	May advise secretary on health policy issues pertaining to department and state
43.20.100	Report to the Governor required each even-numbered year
43.20.145	Consider most current version of US FDA Food Code when adopting food service rules
43.20.275(1)	Convene and provide assistance to the Governor's Interagency Council on Health Disparities
43.20.275(3)	Help the Council assess and recommend ways to improve the availability of culturally and linguistically appropriate health literature and interpretive services
43.20.285	Develop health impact reviews in consultation with the Council
43.70.050	Promote and assess the quality, cost, and accessibility of health care throughout the state (shared with Department of Health)
43.70.130	Receive reports from secretary of health and take action as necessary
43.70.310	Regularly consult with the Department of Ecology
43.70.520	Consult on development of public health improvement plan
48.21.244	Adopt rules for prenatal diagnosis of congenital disorders, which group disability insurance for childbirth must cover when medically necessary
64.44.010	Establish standards for decontamination of property; identify which precursor substances used in illegal drug manufacture pose a human health hazard
64.44.070	Establish rules to implement chapter 64.44 RCW—Contaminated Properties
69.06.010	Set standards and requirements for food and beverage worker permits
69.06.020	Set uniform statewide fee for food and beverage worker permits
69.30.030 (1)	Adopt rules governing the sanitation of shellfish, shellfish growing areas, and shellfish plant facilities and for the disposition of seized shellfish
69.30.030(2)	Consider the most recent version of the national shellfish sanitation program model ordinance when adopting rules for shellfish
70.01.010	Adopt rules to cooperate with the federal government in public health programs to entitle this state to federal funding in furtherance of state policy, unless prohibited by law
70.05.090	Specify diseases physicians must report to the local health officer
70.05.110	Specify diseases that must be reported to the state
70.05.120	Power to remove local health officer or administrative officer who refuses or neglects to enforce any rules, regulations, or orders from SBOH
70.24.017	Define AIDS by clinical syndrome of HIV-related disease; approve tests for

RCW	Description
	sexually transmitted diseases (STDs); determine diseases deemed to be sexually transmitted
70.24.022	Adopt procedures for interviewing persons with sexually transmitted diseases; determine when person is reasonably believed to be infected with an STD
70.24.024	Determine behaviors that “endangers the public health” for people with STDs; establish procedures for investigations
70.24.034	Define “behaviors that present an imminent danger to the public health” for people with STDs; designate detention facilities; establish standards for counseling and education
70.24.050	Approve procedures and regulations for diagnosis and reporting of STDs
70.24.070	Designate detentions and treatment facilities for people with STDs
70.24.105	Identify persons who may receive HIV test results following occupational exposure
70.24.125	Establish reporting requirements for STDs
70.24.130	Establish rules as necessary to implement chapter 70.24 RCW
70.24.320	Define “HIV testing”
70.24.340	Identify persons who may request a health officer order requiring HIV testing following substantial occupational exposure; define “substantial exposure”
70.24.360	Define behaviors that present “possible risk” of HIV transmission to jail staff or others
70.24.370	Department of corrections will consult with Board when defining “possible risk” at state correctional facilities
70.24.380	Establish minimum standards for HIV pretest counseling, testing, posttest counseling, and AIDS counseling
70.24.450	DOH reports annually to Board on confidentiality of reported information
70.28.032	Adopt rules for tuberculosis reporting; define due process protections for people detained and required to undergo TB testing and treatment; establish training standards for people who administer TB tests and medications
70.46.080	Health districts operated in accordance with guidelines established by Board
70.46.090	County that withdraws from health district must meet Board standards
70.58	Authority for vital statistics, including birth certificates and fetal death certificates; may remove health officer as local registrar of vital statistics
70.62.240	Adopt health and safety rules for operation and maintenance of transient accommodations
70.83.050	Adopt rules for newborn screening (PKU and other diseases)
70.90.120	Adopt rules for safety, sanitation, design and construction for water recreational facilities and recreational water contact facilities
70.104.055	Establish manner and time frame for reports of pesticide poisoning

RCW	Description
70.104.057	DOH to consult with Board on continuing education re: pesticide poisoning
70.108.040	Adopt rules regarding siting and site development for outdoor music festivals
70.168.015	Emergency medical services and trauma care system plan made available to the Board in time to be considered for the state health report
90.48.264	Adopt rules for repair of existing failing systems adjacent to marine waters

## **Goal 1: Strengthen the public health system.**

### **Objective 1.1:      Contribute to public health's capacity to control disease and respond to public health emergencies.**

***Strategy 1.1.1:*** *Reserve a portion of the Board's capacity so it is able to develop timely policy responses to emerging and re-emerging diseases when necessary.*

**Activity 1.1.1.1:** Identify specific activities as health threats emerge.

***Strategy 1.1.2:*** *Assure public health authorities and SBOH rules are adequate to prevent and respond to disease outbreaks and other public health emergencies.*

**Activity 1.1.2.1:** Update the notifiable conditions rule, chapter 246-101 WAC.

**Activity 1.1.2.2:** Revise rules for HIV testing and counseling and partner notification in light of CDC recommendations.

**Activity 1.1.2.3:** Continuously evaluate the adequacy of Board rules and public health authorities for isolation and quarantine; revise rules or recommend statutory changes as needed.

**Activity 1.1.2.4:** Monitor developments in the field of syndromic surveillance and communicable disease reporting requirements in other states.

**Activity 1.1.2.5** Brief the board on the Health Officer recommendations concerning drug resistant tuberculosis control issues.

**Activity 1.1.2.6** Update Chapter 246-110 WAC (school/ day care centers control of communicable disease). The list of communicable diseases is outdated and not in synch with current science or the Notifiable Conditions rule.

***Strategy 1.1.3:*** *Contribute to efforts to assure public health preparedness.*

**Activity 1.1.3.1:** Participate in the Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Joint Advisory Committee.

**Activity 1.1.3.2:** Participate with partners in other public health preparedness planning as appropriate.

***Strategy 1.1.4:*** *Promote policies to effectively reduce the impact of adult viral hepatitis.*

**Activity 1.1.4.1:** Hold Board work session to explore the Board's role in promoting policies to effectively reduce the impact of Hepatitis C.

***Strategy 1.1.5:*** *Support efforts to effectively reduce the impact of tuberculosis*

**Activity 1.1.5.1:** Provide Board representation for DOH tuberculosis workgroup.

**Activity 1.1.5.2:** Hold Board briefing on tuberculosis with focus on specific issues such as education-related travel.





**Objective 1.2:**      **Maintain and strengthen the organizational capacity of the public health network.**

*Strategy 1.2.1: Maintain and increase the capacity of state and local public health.*

**Activity 1.2.1.1:** Participate in PHIP activities, including Board of Directors, committees, and assessments.

**Activity 1.2.1.2:** Support DOH in the accreditation process.

**Activity 1.2.1.3:** Support prevention funding in health reform and other legislation.

**Activity 1.2.1.4:** Monitor state government reform efforts and respond when appropriate to maintain a focus on human health.

*Strategy 1.2.2: Maintain partnerships with local public health leadership.*

**Activity 1.2.2.1:** Foster direct communication between Board members and local boards of health.

**Activity 1.2.2.2:** Maintain a section on the Board Web site that provides current information about local boards of health.

**Activity 1.2.2.3:** Identify and act on opportunities to contribute to local board development activities.

**Activity 1.2.2.4:** Participate in Washington State Association of Local Public Health Officials meetings and provide reports.

**Activity 1.2.2.5:** Explore ways to increase collaboration with local elected officials and associations representing cities and counties.

*Strategy 1.2.3: Support tribal and urban Indian public health capacity building.*

**Activity 1.2.3.1:** Work with the American Indian Health Commission to develop Internet resources promoting tribal public health.

**Activity 1.2.3.2:** Support American Indian Health Commission efforts to use the Web to help disseminate and implement the 2009-11 American Indian Health Care Delivery Plan.

*Strategy 1.2.4: Assure the Board is a high-functioning organization.*

**Activity 1.2.4.1:** Update the strategic plan and associated performance measures at least once every two years.

**Activity 1.2.4.2:** Document policies and procedures.

**Activity 1.2.4.3:** Promote performance management within the Board.

**Activity 1.2.4.4:** Develop goals and evaluation strategies for rule making and policy initiatives.

**Activity 1.2.4.5:** Maintain strong collaborative relationships with state, local, tribal, and federal partners.

**Activity 1.2.4.6:** Work with Governor's office to identify new members to the board as positions become available.

**Activity 1.2.4.7** Migrate the sboh.wa.gov and healthequity.wa.gov websites to the new DOH content management system.

## Goal 2: Increase access to preventive services.

### **Objective 2.1:**      **Increase the availability, accessibility, and utilization of preventive health services.**

*Strategy 2.1.1: Increase use of the Board's Menu of Critical Health Services.*

**Activity 2.1.1.1:** Promote use of the menu by local health jurisdictions.

**Activity 2.1.1.2:** Explore and pursue opportunities to promote use of the menu in other policy development settings.

*Strategy 2.1.2: Promote use of preventive health services.*

**Activity 2.1.2.1:** Support ongoing state efforts, in partnership with federal government to encourage health homes in order to: improve access to preventive care; decrease emergency room use; decrease days of school or work missed due to health problems; reduce the amount of unmet health needs; improve care regardless of race or income.

**Activity 2.1.2.2:** Promote awareness of *Recommended Children's Preventive Services, Ages Birth through 10 Years*.

**Activity 2.1.2.3:** Keep Board apprised of impact federal and state health policy changes are likely to have on the delivery or preventive services to children and adolescents.

**Activity 2.1.2.4:** Hold Board briefing on school-based health centers.

**Activity 2.1.2.5:** Hold briefing and request endorsement of an integrated strategy to improve oral health in Washington State.

*Strategy 2.1.3: Decrease vaccine preventable diseases.*

**Activity 2.1.3.1:** Review criteria for school and child care entry requirements.

**Activity 2.1.3.2:** Keep Board rules on school and child care entry current and consistent with the Board's criteria.

**Activity 2.1.3.3:** Participate in planning efforts to reduce disruptions that are likely to result from transitioning away from state-funded universal purchasing of children's vaccines.

**Activity 2.1.3.4:** Encourage and monitor utilization of immunization registries (Washington State Immunization Information System).

**Activity 2.1.3.5:** Monitor other states' efforts to reduce convenience exemptions and support appropriate statutory changes.

**Activity 2.1.3.6:** Hold Board briefing on immunizations rates and barriers and effective approaches used to improve rates and address barriers.

**Activity 2.1.3.7:** Update Chapter 246-105 WAC (Immunization rules) so they are in synch with legislation which changed exemption requirements.

**Activity 2.1.3.8** Create Board approved policies and procedures that are based on the Board's authority and best practice to prevent and control the spread of infectious disease during emergent outbreaks and epidemics.

**Strategy 2.1.4:** *Assure child health rules are current; revise if necessary.*

**Activity 2.1.4.1:** Ensure Board rules for vision screening in schools, chapter 246-760 WAC, reflect best practices.

**Activity 2.1.4.2:** Complete interpretive statement for vision screening in schools.

**Activity 2.1.4.3:** Update Board rules for ophthalmic treatment of newborns, WAC 246-100-202.

**Activity 2.1.4.4** Repeal scoliosis screening rules, chapter 246-762 WAC

**Objective 2.2: Promote a preventive approach to mental health services.**

**Strategy 2.2.1:** *Promote a public health approach to mental health.*

**Activity 2.2.1.1:** Participate in State Prevention Enhancement Advisory Group

**Activity 2.2.1.2:** Support mental health and primary care integration

**Activity 2.2.1.3:** Continue to promote awareness of the Board's 2007 report on a public health approach to mental health.

### **Goal 3: Reduce health disparities.**

**Objective 3.1: Support the successful implementation of Senate Bill 6197 (2006).**

*Strategy 3.1.1: Support the Governor's Interagency Council on Health Disparities.*

**Activity 3.1.1.1:** Continue to staff the work of the council.

**Activity 3.1.1.2:** Complete U.S. DHHS Office of Minority Health grant to improve communication with diverse populations.

**Activity 3.1.1.3:** Reserve Board executive director capacity to support strategic success of the council plan.

*Strategy 3.1.2: Provide health impact reviews.*

**Activity 3.1.2.1:** Provide health impact reviews to the extent possible within available resources when requested by the Governor and legislators.

**Activity 3.1.2.2:** Support funding restoration when state revenues allow.

**Objective 3.2: Work to simultaneously reduce health disparities and the academic achievement gap.**

*Strategy 3.2.2: Promote policies that address health equity and academic achievement.*

**Activity 3.2.2.1:** Maintain Web pages related to the Each Student Successful Summit and subsequent work products.

**Activity 3.2.2.2:** Support policy proposals likely to address both issues.

**Objective 3.3: Integrate health disparities considerations into Board activities.**

*Strategy 3.3.1: Intentionally consider health equity in all policy development efforts.*

**Activity 3.3.1.1:** Consider health equity in all Board reports.

**Activity 3.3.1.2:** Utilize Health Equity Impact Review guide developed by Department of Health.

**Activity 3.3.1.3:** Work with the Department of Health to identify opportunities to pilot the health equity impact review guide.

*Strategy 3.3.2: Assure the cultural competency of the Board and its staff.*

**Activity 3.3.2.1:** Require cultural competency training for all new staff.

**Activity 3.3.2.2:** Require GOIA government-to-government training for all new staff and make available to Board members as budget allows.

**Activity 3.3.2.3:** Assess cultural competency in employees' annual performance and development planning.

## **Goal 4: Encourage healthy behaviors.**

### **Objective 4.1:      Improve nutrition and increase physical activity.**

*Strategy 4.1.1: Partner with other organizations to promote better nutrition and increased physical activity, particularly for children.*

**Activity 4.1.1.1:** Organize a panel presentation focused on effective, school-based strategies to promote better student nutrition and physical activity.

**Activity 4.1.1.2:** Identify ways to support Department of Health efforts to implement the Community Transformation Grant.

### **Objective 4.2:      Reduce use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs.**

*Strategy 4.2.1: Support tobacco control efforts.*

**Activity 4.2.1.1:** Hold Board briefing on Department of Health Tobacco Program activities.

**Activity 4.2.1.2:** Identify potential opportunities to support efforts to reduce youth smoking, secondhand smoke exposure for children, and use of smokeless tobacco.

**Activity 4.2.1.3** Hold briefing to examine the increase of tobacco sales to youth.

*Strategy 4.2.2: Support efforts to reduce drug abuse through public health measures.*

**Activity 4.2.2.1:** Hold briefing on drug abuse problems in Washington State and efforts to address them.

## **Goal 5: Promote healthy and safe environments.**

### **Objective 5.1: Assure Board environmental health rules are doing what they are designed to do.**

*Strategy 5.1.1: Evaluate rules in a regular and timely manner.*

**Activity 5.1.1.1:** Receive briefing from DOH regarding implementation of chapter 246-215 WAC, Food Service rules (adopted 2012).

**Activity 5.1.1.2:** Receive DOH report regarding possible need to revise chapter 246-272A WAC, On-Site Sewage Systems.

**Activity 5.1.1.3:** Create opportunity for environmental health directors to brief the Board on local implementation of environmental health rules.

*Strategy 5.1.2: Assure environmental health rules are current; revise if necessary.*

**Activity 5.1.2.1:** Revise rules controlling diseases of animals transmissible to humans, WAC 246-100-191 and WAC 246-100-201.

**Activity 5.1.2.2:** Revise rules for drinking water laboratory certification, chapter 246-390 WAC.

**Activity 5.1.2.3:** Revise rules for Group B drinking water systems, chapter 246-291 WAC, as necessary.

**Activity 5.1.2.4:** Adopt rules for septic tank design and construction, new chapter 246-272C WAC.

**Activity 5.1.2.5:** Adopt rules for on-site sewage system drainfield remediation technologies under chapter 246-272A WAC.

**Activity 5.1.2.6:** Revise water recreations rules, chapter 246-260 WAC, as necessary to reflect new federal regulations.

**Activity 5.1.2.7:** Explore possible need to revise general sanitation rules for keeping of animal rules, WAC 246-203-130, and revise if necessary.

**Activity 5.1.2.8:** Resolve possible conflicts between board rules on onsite systems and licensure requirements for onsite septic designers.

**Activity 5.1.2.9:** Consider revising *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* Control Plan in WAC 246-282-006

### **Objective 5.2: Promote school environments that protect human health.**

*Strategy 5.2.1: Ensure Board rules and associated guidance are adequate and current.*

- Activity 5.2.1.1:** Adopt modernized school environmental health and safety rules, chapter 246-366A WAC and implement contingent on funding or other legislative action.
- Activity 5.2.1.2:** Support funding for school construction and for operation and maintenance at sufficient levels to allow schools to meet state environmental health and safety standards.
- Activity 5.2.1.3:** Work with Governor's Office, Legislature, DOH, OSPI, schools, local health jurisdictions, and other partners to develop a strategy for implementing the modernized environmental health and safety rules.
- Activity 5.2.1.4:** Encourage DOH and OSPI to revise school health and safety guidelines so they are current and address issues not fully addressed in rules.

**Strategy 5.2.2:** *Improve quality and quantity of local school health and safety programs.*

- Activity 5.2.2.1:** Encourage local health jurisdictions and school districts to cooperatively strengthen local efforts to improve environmental health and safety in schools.
- Activity 5.2.2.2:** Provide input to OSPI, the Building Code Council, and other partner agencies on programs and rules related to school health and safety.
- Activity 5.2.2.3:** Hold Board briefing on school health and safety issues—such as bullying, public safety, and emergency preparedness—that are outside the scope of the Board's environmental health rules.

**Objective 5.3:      Support efforts to reduce human exposure to environmental toxins.**

**Strategy 5.3.1:** *Increase awareness of threats to children from environmental toxins.*

- Activity 5.3.1.1:** Update Board on issues related to children's exposure to environmental toxins.



## State Board of Health Logic Model

